

# I M P A C T

---

## INTRODUCTION

## Part 1 - Connect

We want to make a difference. We strive to have an impact. We need to be able to identify our talents and gifts, and leverage our abilities for good. Above all, we need help from others to accomplish that.

Join us for a new series, as we explore ways we can have a greater impact in the world around us—together.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What was your experience with church like when you were growing up? Did it help you grow spiritually? If so, in what ways?
2. Read Ecclesiastes 4:9-12. Can you think of an example where one plus one doesn't equal two (based on verse 9)? How have you seen the truth of verses 9-12 applied in your own life?
3. Do you think most Christians feel the church is absolutely essential to their spiritual development or do most Christians think they can make it on their own? Explain your answer.
4. Read 1 Corinthians 12:18-27. Why is a body a good analogy of how the church is to operate? How might some of the parts of the body correspond to various functions within the church (e.g. the hands represent the "gift of serving")?
5. Why does it matter that God is the one who "gifts us" in various ways and places us within the body of Christ?
6. Can you identify some of the spiritual gifts you see at work within the church?
7. Read Ephesians 4:11-16. In what ways do we need each other in the body of Christ? How do we help each other grow?
8. What are some practical steps people can take to become more connected with the body of Christ?
9. How might you apply this lesson to your life?

## APPLICATION

Often, we view faith as a solo act. We don't always see the need for other people in our spiritual journey, and how they can contribute to our development. In contrast, we also fail to see the impact we can have on the spiritual lives of others. We need each other to be able to work as one—together we can accomplish more, as well as receive more.

To achieve that, we have to start by being properly connected. Everyone is a part of the whole, and every part has a purpose. Even when we think that we only play a small role, other parts still depend on us so that the whole can work properly. We may think What do I have to offer?, Who needs me?, or I'm not important. However, in God's design, every part is essential. Together, we can have a greater impact than we can alone.

## KEY VERSES

- 1 Corinthians 12:18-27
- Ephesians 4:9-16